

Remarks

Claims 2-17 are pending herein. By this Amendment, claim 1 has been canceled, and claims 2-6, 8 and 17 have been amended.

Claim 2 has been amended so that it is now an independent claim incorporating the features of canceled claim 1.

Claims 3, 4, 6, 8 and 17 have been amended to depend claim 2 rather than upon canceled claim 1.

Claim 5 has been amended so that it also is now an independent claim incorporating the features of canceled claim 1.

Applicants respectfully submit that the amendments made herein do not raise new issues. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request entry of this Amendment.

In the Final Office Action, claims 1-4, 6-8 and 10-13 are rejected under §102(b) as being anticipated by JP 61062831 to Uehara et al. ("Uehara"); and claims 5, 9 and 14-17 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

In view of the amendments and remarks herein, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection and objection set forth in the Office Action.

I. Rejection of Claims 1-4, 6-8 and 10-13

Claims 1-4, 6-8 and 10-13 are rejected under §102(b) as being anticipated by Uehara.

As noted above, claim 1 has been canceled. Claim 2 has been amended so that it is now in independent form including the limitations of claim 1. Claims 3, 4, 6 and 8 have been amended to depend claim 2.

Applicants respectfully submit that claims 2-4, 6-8 and 10-13 are not anticipated by Uehara.

In the electronic clinical thermometer set forth in amended claim 2, the display device, the vibration generator and the operation switch are arranged in the order of:

[display device] – [operation switch] – [vibration generator] or
[vibration generator] – [operation switch] – [display device].

With the above arrangement, when a user operates the operation switch, the vibration generator is located in the palm of the user, thereby allowing the vibration generated by the vibration generator to be transmitted easily to the palm of the user.

On the other hand, in the electronic clinical thermometer disclosed in Uehara, the display device (liquid crystal 7), the vibration generator (electromagnetic buzzer 8), and the operation switch (switch rubber 9) are arranged in the order of:

[display device] – [vibration generator] – [operation switch].

With the above arrangement, when a user operates the operation switch, the vibration generator (electromagnetic buzzer 8) is not covered by the palm of the user.

Thus, in view of the amendments and remarks herein, Applicants respectfully submit that Uehara does not anticipate claims 2-4, 6-8 and 10-13.

II. Objection to Claims 5, 9 and 14-17

Claims 5, 9 and 14-17 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claim 5 depends upon claim 1. Claim 5 has been rewritten so that it is now an independent claim including all of the limitations of canceled claim 1. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 5 is in allowable form.

Claims 9 and 14-16 depend directly or indirectly upon claim 8. As amended herein, claims 8 and 17 depend directly upon claim 2. Claim 2 has been amended so that it is now an independent claim including the contents of canceled claim 1.

If claim 9 were rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims, claim 9 would include the contents of claims 1 and 8. In view of the amendments to claims 2 and 8, Applicants submit that claim 9 is now in allowable form because it includes the contents of claims 1, 2 and 8.

If claim 14 were rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims, claim 14 would include the contents of claims 1, 8 and 12. In view of the amendments to claims 2 and 8, Applicants submit that claim 14 is now in allowable form because it includes the contents of claims 1, 2, 8 and 12.

If claim 15 were rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims, claim 15 would include the contents of claims 1, 8, 12 and 14. In view of the amendments to claims 2 and 8, Applicants submit that claim 15 is now in allowable form because it includes the contents of claims 1, 2, 8, 12 and 14.

If claim 16 were rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims, claim 16 would include the contents of claims 1, 8, 12 and 14. In view of the amendments to claims 2 and 8, Applicants submit that claim 16 is now in allowable form because it includes the contents of claims 1, 2, 8, 12 and 14.

If claim 17 were rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims, claim 17 would include the contents of claim 1. In view of the amendments to claims 2 and 17, Applicants submit that claim 17 is now in allowable form because it includes the contents of claims 1 and 2.

Thus, for at least the foregoing reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that 5, 9 and 14-17 are in allowable form.


III. Conclusion

In view of the amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection and objection set forth in the Office Action be withdrawn and that claims 2-17 be allowed.

If any additional fees under 37 C. F. R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17 are due in connection with this filing, please charge the fees to Deposit Account No. 02-4300, Order No. 032213M041.

Respectfully submitted,
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MAM/MM/cvj

Enclosures: (1) Petition for Extension of Time
(2) Check for the sum of \$120